Title: Need to set up Nagpur Development Authority and remove green belt restriction for thirty kilometre area around Nagpur, Maharashtra.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): As per recent Notification of the Government of Maharashtra, CIDCO has been appointed as Planning authority for long awaited `Meghdoot' -- Nagpur Satellite township project between Nagpur and Butibori. The Government is to acquire about 9,310 hectares of identified land in nearly 22 villages from Nagpur and Hingana Tehsils to provide housing to nearly seven lakhs to eight lakhs of people with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 750 crore.

Similarly, Airport Authority of India recently proposed an ambitious plan of upgrading Nagpur airport as international cargo and passenger hub and have also identified about 2,000 hectares of land adjoining Sonegaon airport.

Both the proposals are commercial in nature and have received wide support of Nagpurians.

However, there is a simmering discontent among the farmers whose land has been identified for the projects and restrictions imposed on sale/purchase of the identified land. The farmers are also very much worried about the unrealistic rate of compensation and delay in payment in spite of the fact that the restrictions have come into force two years back. The current market price of the land identified for the project is many times higher than the Government's compensation rates.

The Government must ensure adequate, rational and reasonable compensation to the farmers for parting their only source of livelihood.

Hence, I seek the intervention of the authority of the Union of India. For catering to the balanced and planned growth of Nagpur, I strongly plead for setting up Nagpur Development Authority and removal of green belt restriction for thirty kilometre area around Nagpur to facilitate construction activities.

I demand that Government should make a firm commitment to safeguard the interests of farmers in project area to avoid confrontation and to mitigate farmers' genuine grievances.